

What is claimed is:

1. A garment comprising:
a fabric having a plurality of pores; and
5 a thermoplastic elastomer applied to at least a selected portion of the fabric, the selected portion of the fabric including the plurality of pores, the thermoplastic elastomer being configured to allow vapor passage through the plurality of pores.
2. The garment according to claim 1 further comprising a liquid resistant composition
10 applied to at least the selected portion of the fabric, the liquid-resistant composition substantially preventing a liquid from passing through the plurality of pores.
3. The garment according to claim 2, wherein the liquid resistant composition is a fluorochemical.
- 15 4. The garment according to claim 1, wherein the fabric is denim.
5. The garment according to claim 4, wherein the fabric is texture-treated denim.
- 20 6. The garment according to claim 1 further comprising a crosslinking composition applied at least to the selected portion of the fabric.
7. The garment according to claim 1 further comprising a microencapsulated odor neutralizing composition applied to at least the selected portion of the fabric.
- 25 8. A garment comprising:
a fabric having a plurality of pores, the fabric having a given critical surface tension if a fluorochemical is applied thereto, the plurality of pores each having a size capable of permitting a given liquid having a surface tension that is no less than the given critical
30 surface tension to pass therethrough if a fluorochemical is applied to the fabric; and

an occluding composition applied to at least a selected portion of the fabric, the selected portion including the plurality of pores, the occluding composition being capable of substantially preventing passage of the given liquid through the plurality of pores while substantially allowing vapor passage through the plurality of pores.

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9. The garment according to claim 8, wherein the fabric includes denim.

10. The garment according to claim 9, wherein the denim is texture-treated.

10 11. The garment according to claim 8, wherein the fabric is texture-treated.

12. The garment according to claim 8, wherein the occluding composition includes a liquid resistant composition.

15 13. The garment according to claim 12, wherein the liquid resistant composition includes a fluorochemical.

14. The garment according to claim 8, wherein the occluding composition includes a pore resistance composition.

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15. The garment according to claim 14, wherein the pore resistance composition includes a wax.

16. The garment according to claim 14, wherein the pore resistance composition includes
25 a thermoplastic elastomer.

17. The garment according to claim 16, wherein the thermoplastic elastomer includes a urethane.

30 18. The garment according to claim 8 further including a crosslinking composition applied to at least the selected portion of the fabric.

19. The garment according to claim 18, wherein the crosslinking composition includes a wrinkle-resistant composition.

5 20. The garment according to claim 19, wherein the crosslinking composition includes an inorganic salt and 2-imidazolidinone.

21. The garment according to claim 18, wherein the crosslinking composition includes a glyoxal-based agent.

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22. The garment according to claim 8 further including a microencapsulated odor neutralizing composition applied to at least the selected portion of the fabric.

15 23. The garment according to claim 22, wherein the microencapsulated odor neutralizing composition is capable of decreasing the vapor pressure of an odor composition.

24. The garment according to claim 22, wherein the microencapsulated odor neutralizing composition includes a scent composition.

20 25. The garment according to claim 22, wherein the microencapsulated odor neutralizing composition includes liposoluble essences of phosphate salts of 2,2' -oxybisethanol-2,2'-(methylimino)bisethanol.

25 26. The garment according to claim 8 further including a softening agent applied to at least the selected portion of the fabric.

27. The garment according to claim 26, wherein the softening agent includes an amino-modified copolymer silicone.

30 28. A fabric comprising:

a fabric surface having a plurality of pores, the fabric having a given critical surface tension if a fluorochemical is applied thereto, the plurality of pores each having a size capable of permitting a given liquid having a surface tension that is no less than the given critical surface tension to pass therethrough if a fluorochemical is applied to the fabric; and

5 an occluding composition applied to at least a selected portion of the fabric, the selected portion including the plurality of pores, the occluding composition being capable of substantially preventing passage of the given liquid through the plurality of pores while substantially allowing vapor passage through the plurality of pores.

10 29. The fabric according to claim 28, wherein the fabric includes denim.

30. The fabric according to claim 29, wherein the denim is texture-treated.

31. The fabric according to claim 28, wherein the fabric is texture-treated.

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32. The fabric according to claim 28, wherein the occluding composition includes a liquid resistant composition.

20 33. The fabric according to claim 32, wherein the liquid resistant composition is a fluorochemical.

34. The fabric according to claim 28, wherein the occluding composition includes a pore resistance composition.

25 35. The fabric according to claim 34, wherein the pore resistance composition includes a thermoplastic elastomer.

36. The fabric according to claim 35, wherein the thermoplastic elastomer includes a urethane.

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37. The fabric according to claim 28 further including a crosslinking composition applied to at least the selected portion of the fabric.

38. The fabric according to claim 37, wherein the crosslinking composition includes a
5 wrinkle-resistant composition.

39. The fabric according to claim 38, wherein the crosslinking composition includes an inorganic salt and 2-imidazolidinone.

10 40. The fabric according to claim 37, wherein the crosslinking composition includes a glyoxal-based agent.

41. The fabric according to claim 28 further including a microencapsulated odor neutralizing composition applied to at least the selected portion of the fabric.

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42. The fabric according to claim 41, wherein the microencapsulated odor neutralizing composition is capable of decreasing the vapor pressure of an odor composition.

43. The fabric according to claim 41, wherein the microencapsulated odor neutralizing
20 composition includes a scent composition.

44. The fabric according to claim 41, wherein the microencapsulated odor neutralizing composition includes liposoluble essences of phosphate salts of 2,2' -oxybisethanol-2,2'-(methyylimino)bisethanol.

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45. The fabric according to claim 28 further including a softening agent applied to at least the selected portion of the fabric.

46. The fabric according to claim 45, wherein the softening agent includes an amino-
30 modified copolymer silicone.

47. A method of making a garment, the method comprising:
providing a garment; and
applying a composition to at least a portion of the garment, the composition being
capable of substantially resisting liquid passage through the portion of the garment, and
5 substantially allowing vapor passage through the portion of the garment.

48. The method according to claim 47 further including:
heating the garment to spread the composition on the garment.

10 49. The method according to claim 47, wherein, in providing, the garment includes
denim.

50. A method according to claim 49, wherein providing the garment includes providing
texture-treated denim.

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51. A method according to claim 47, wherein, in providing, the garment includes a
texture-treated fabric.

52. The method according to claim 47, wherein applying the composition includes:
20 evenly applying an excessive amount of the composition to the garment; and
removing an extra amount of the composition from the garment.

53. A method according to claim 52, wherein evenly applying the composition includes:
spraying the excessive amount of composition on the garment while tumbling the
25 garment.

54. A method according to claim 52, wherein removing includes:
hydroextracting a portion of the extra amount of the composition from the garment;
and
30 drying the garment to remove a remaining portion of the extra amount of the
composition from the garment.

55. The method according to claim 47, wherein the composition includes a liquid resistant composition.

5 56. The method according to claim 55, wherein the liquid resistant composition includes a fluorochemical.

57. The method according to claim 47, wherein the composition includes a pore resistance composition.

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58. The method according to claim 57, wherein the pore resistance composition includes a thermoplastic elastomer.

59. The method according to claim 47, wherein the composition includes a crosslinking
15 composition applied to at least the selected portion of the fabric.

60. The method according to claim 59, wherein the crosslinking composition includes a wrinkle-resistant composition.

20 61. The method according to claim 47, wherein the composition includes a microencapsulated odor neutralizing composition applied to at least the selected portion of the fabric.

62. The method according to claim 47, wherein the composition includes a softening
25 agent applied to at least the selected portion of the fabric.

63. The method according to claim 47, wherein applying the composition includes applying the composition as one mixture.

30 64. The method according to claim 47, wherein method is performed on a plurality of garments substantially simultaneously.

65. A garment processed according to claim 47.

66. A method of making a fabric that resists liquid passage, the method comprising:

5 providing a fabric having a plurality of pores, the fabric having a given critical surface tension if a fluorochemical is applied thereto, the plurality of pores each having a size capable of permitting a given liquid having a surface tension that is no less than the given critical surface tension to pass therethrough if a fluorochemical is applied to the fabric; and

10 applying an occluding composition to at least a selected portion of the fabric, the selected portion including the plurality of pores, the occluding composition being capable of substantially preventing passage of the given liquid through the plurality of pores while substantially allowing vapor passage through the plurality of pores.

15 67. The method according to claim 66 further including:

heating the fabric to spread the occluding composition on the fabric.

68. The method according to claim 66, wherein, in providing, the fabric includes denim.

20 69. The method according to claim 68, wherein providing the fabric includes providing texture-treated denim.

70. The method according to claim 66, wherein, in providing, the fabric includes a texture-treated fabric.

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71. The method according to claim 66, wherein applying the occluding composition includes:

evenly applying an excessive amount of the occluding composition to the fabric; and removing an extra amount of the occluding composition from the fabric.

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72. The method according to claim 71, wherein evenly applying the occluding composition includes:

spraying the excessive amount of occluding composition on the fabric while tumbling the fabric.

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73. The method according to claim 71, wherein removing includes:

hydroextracting a portion of the extra amount of the occluding composition from the fabric; and

drying the garment to remove a remaining portion of the extra amount of the occluding composition from the fabric.

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74. The method according to claim 66, wherein the occluding composition includes a liquid resistant composition.

15 75. The method according to claim 74, wherein the liquid resistant composition includes a fluorochemical.

76. The method according to claim 66, wherein the occluding composition includes a pore resistance composition.

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77. The method according to claim 76, wherein the pore resistance composition includes a thermoplastic elastomer.

25 78. The method according to claim 66, wherein the occluding composition includes a crosslinking composition applied to at least the selected portion of the fabric.

79. The method according to claim 78, wherein the crosslinking composition includes a wrinkle-resistant composition.

80. The method according to claim 66, wherein the occluding composition includes a microencapsulated odor neutralizing composition applied to at least the selected portion of the fabric.

5 81. The method according to claim 66, wherein the occluding composition includes a softening agent applied to at least the selected portion of the fabric.

82. The method according to claim 66, wherein applying the occluding composition includes applying the occluding composition as one mixture.

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83. The method according to claim 66, wherein the method is performed on a plurality of fabrics substantially simultaneously.

84. A fabric processed according to claim 66.

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85. A fabric-based article comprising:

a fabric having a plurality of pores, the fabric having a given critical surface tension if a fluorochemical is applied thereto, the plurality of pores each having a size capable of permitting a given liquid having a surface tension that is no less than the given critical

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surface tension to pass therethrough if a fluorochemical is applied to the fabric; and

an occluding composition applied to at least a selected portion of the fabric, the selected portion including the plurality of pores, the occluding composition being capable of substantially preventing passage of the given liquid through the plurality of pores while substantially allowing vapor passage through the plurality of pores.

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86. A formulation to treat a fabric with a plurality of pores, the fabric having a given critical surface tension if a fluorochemical is applied thereto, the plurality of pores each having a size capable of permitting a given liquid having a surface tension that is no less than the given critical surface tension to pass therethrough if a fluorochemical is applied to the fabric, the formulation comprising:

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a fluorochemical; and

a pore resistance composition
wherein the formulation substantially prevents passage of the given liquid through the plurality of pores while substantially allows vapor passage through the plurality of pores, when applied to the fabric.

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87. A garment comprising:
a denim fabric; and
a microencapsulated odor neutralizing composition applied to a portion of the denim fabric.

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88. The garment according to claim 87, wherein the microencapsulated odor neutralizing composition is capable of decreasing the vapor pressure of an odor composition.

89. The garment according to claim 87, wherein the microencapsulated odor neutralizing
15 composition includes a scent composition.

90. The garment according to claim 87, wherein the microencapsulated odor neutralizing composition includes liposoluble essences of phosphate salts of 2,2' -oxybisethanol-2,2' - (methylimino)bisethanol.

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91. The garment according to claim 87, wherein the denim fabric is texture treated.

92. A method for making a garment with an odor neutralizing composition, the method comprising:

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providing a garment including a denim fabric; and
applying a microencapsulated odor neutralizing composition to at least a portion of the denim fabric.

93. The method according to claim 92 further comprising:
30 applying a crosslinking composition to the at least a portion of the denim fabric; and heating the garment to activate the crosslinking composition.

94. The method according to claim 92, wherein the denim fabric is texture treated.

95. A garment processed according to claim 92.

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